25z-1945

New Jersey

MORRISTOWN, N. J.
RECORD
Cir. D. 8,105

AUG 6 - 1945

Stresses Need Of Training For Negroes

MADISON — Officials from the USES and the State Department of Education atatended the August meeting of the Employment Committee of the Morristown Service Council of the National Urban League, held at the residence of Arthur C. Gillette.

The committee is attempting to obtain a fair share of employment opportunities for Negroes in Morris County. Since an obstacle to the employment of Negroes is often lack of training, the Committee is investigating the vocational training opportunities available in the county.

William H. Mason, Jr., County Superintendent of Schools, stated that the vocational training in the county consists of partial training courses at Dover High School. It is anticipated that night courses will be offered returning veterans but these will be limited because the G. I. Bill of Rights only permits a tuition charge to the Federal government equal to that now charged, and since tuition is at present free, the veterans courses will not have sufficient funds, although private trade schools may charge tuition up to $500. It was suggested that there is need of revision of the G. I. Bill of Rights to correct situations such as this.

27-1945

Fewer babies would insure more babies, says sociologist

Los Angeles Tribune - Calif
7-23-45

"The Negro population in the United States can best be increased by birth control."

Writing in the July issue of Negro Digest, Dr. E. Franklin Frazier argues:

"The survival and progress of the Negro race depends not upon how many babies are born, but upon how many live to become strong, healthy and useful adults."

Dr. Frazier, professor of sociology at Howard university, maintains that birth control is the best method to assure more Negro babies.

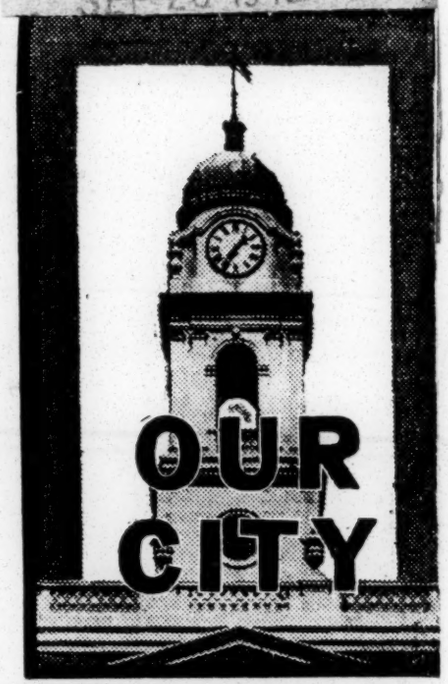
Using statistics gathered at Fisk university, Frazier declares that teachers' families which practice birth control have the same birth rates as Negro relief clients who lost many children through maternal mortality and child deaths.

"The fecundity of the Negro race, prized even by slave owners who stood to prosper by many and healthy babies is no longer the Negro's most valuable attribute and his survival depends not upon some instinctive urge like sex, but upon intelligence and understanding in his family as well as in his integration into industry and employment of political rights", Dr. Frazier asserted.

He paid high tribute to the program of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America whose purpose is not to limit the number of Negro births in this country but to arrange the birth of more healthy babies who will live to grow up to become strong, healthy, useful adults. 7-23

EAST ORANGE, N. J.
RECORD
Circ. W. 4,521

SEP 20 1945



Birth Rate Among Native Whites Is Climbing Steadily

(Continued from last week)

During the war years, the number of male births in East Orange exceeded the female births by nearly 200, almost equaling in number the total of men from our city killed in the war. The excess of male births over female was greatest in 1942, when it came to an even 100, and tapered down to only five last year.

The belief that during times of war more boys than girls are born has been supported by national statistics in this war, and the phenomenon is explained as nature's effort to maintain the balance between males and females. Mind, we do not subscribe to this belief, but the East Orange vital statistics certainly appear to support it.

In last week's column we discussed death and disease in our city. Births and marriages, with which this week's column deals largely, are more pleasant subjects.

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Another surprising sidelight revealed in the birth statistics of the past decade is that native white parents are bettering the average of parents in the Negro and foreign groups. This will surprise many, but here are the rates per 1,000 population for the past five two-year intervals to prove it:

	Negro	Foreign	Native
1936	12.9	19.4	10.0
1938	14.0	16.6	11.3
1940	13.7	15.8	12.3
1942	17.6	17.9	18.5
1944	14.2	17.4	18.1

The birth rate among native whites seems to follow the upward economic trend, but this does not appear to hold true in the other two groups.

On the whole, however, the number of births decreased last year. The 615 males and 610 female babies added up to a total of 1,225, as against 1,276 in the year before that.

All but 17 of these births took place in hospitals. Only four were attended by midwives. Eleven of the babies were born out of wedlock. There were nine pairs of twins.

December was the stork's busiest month, while August ran it a fair second. There were 130 births in December, as against 80 each in March and May, the lightest months.

Marriages also fell off last year,

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although they were far more numerous than during the depression years. There were 491 last year, compared with the following five-year averages:

1930-1934	351
1935-1939	443
1940-1944	563

June, of course, was the most popular month for marriages. There were 68 licenses taken out during the month of roses and only 24 in March, when Cupid's marksmanship was noticeably at its worst.

One out of every eight persons married here had been previously divorced. Two marriages performed were miscegenous. Of 20 minors who had to obtain the consent of parents, 14 were boys and six were girls.

All the figures quoted in this column are from the annual report of the Board of Health, just released in a book of 79 pages.

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In field of maternity during the year there were 33 stillbirths, all but one occurring in hospitals. An interesting observation in the report suggests that this high number, which was nearly double that of the previous year, might be attributed to the effects of the war, because many of these pregnant women may have been under unusual physical or other strain and, because of the shortage of physicians, may not have received the care usually accorded such cases.

During 1944 the dental clinic of the Department devoted its entire attention to the care of expectant mothers who were wives of men in the Service. Thirty-five such cases were cared for in the dental clinic in the Health Department Building under the direction of Dr. Philip Schwartz.

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One of the major part of the annual report of the Health Department for 1944 is that relating to child hygiene with its subdivisions of maternity, infant and pre-school, and school hygiene.

The pre-natal work in the city is performed uniformly with the other Oranges and Maplewood under the Maternity Centre., a joint effort of the local hospitals, the health departments and the Visiting Nurse Association. The latter supplies direction for the program and the field and clinic nurses.

A weekly service has been maintained in the East Orange General Hospital, and during the year 341 mothers were supervised at home by 1,428 home visits and made 215 visits to the clinic. This report shows 31 more women enrolled than in the previous year, and they were cared for during the pre-natal period and were supervised by the same agency for the babies four weeks after birth. At that time the infants are turned over to the infant nurses of the Health Department.

* * *

The infant and pre-school children in the city are cared for through six baby stations located in as many different sections, and serviced by six nurses and three physicians. During the year 882 babies and 1,600 pre-school children were so cared for, this being 77 fewer infants and 25 more of the older children than in 1943.

The loss among infants, according to Health Officer Osborne, parallels very closely the decrease in the number of births, which began to fall off in 1943.

Visits to the six clinics totalled 1,002, while visits of nurses to homes of infants amounted to 3,772 and to those of older children to 5,680. Two hundred and seventy-five infants and 394 pre-school children received physical examinations by these physicians, and during the so-called "Summer Round-up," which is held each year for these children who are to enter school in the fall, 96 were examined and 28 were given the "Blue Ribbon Certificate of Merit," a Department credential showing that they had been immunized against diphtheria, vaccinated against smallpox, examined both physically and dentally, and had all remedial defects corrected. These services are all perofrmed at these stations for families which either have no family physician or cannot afford to have it done privately. Immunization against whooping cough was added a year ago and is becoming very popular.

These nurses also inspect regularly all of the foster homes or boarding homes for children in the city. These caretakers are all examined for syphilis and gonorrhea, as are the children in these and all other child-caring institutions in East Orange.

A recent amendment to the Sanitary Code requires that such places shall be licensed and supervised by the Health Department, even though one or more of the parents may also live at the same address, provided they are customarily away for a substantial part of the 24-hour day. During 1944, 55 such homes were licensed. In them were 87 children who were cared for during the day while the mothers were employed.